

How God Turns Evidence Into Proof

The Bible Says that We Can _____

The scriptures often give us the impression that we have the ability to CHOOSE God:

Joshua 24:15

"...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

But, Can We Really _____?

The scriptures are also clear about the fact that we are so caught up in our evil human nature that we are actually INCAPABLE of choosing God!

Romans 3:9-12

We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Does God _____?

The Bible teaches that unless God first does a work in our hearts, (unless God first softens our hearts so that we are not completely controlled by our depraved, sinful nature), we will never be able to choose God or believe that Jesus is God.

John 6:43-45

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day."

God _____ and We Choose

God first removes our hostility toward Him so that we will then choose Him

The Anchovy Pizza

If I hate anchovies, I will never freely choose an anchovy pizza. But if my disgust of anchovies was replaced with a love of anchovies, I will most certainly consider the anchovy pizza!

In a similar way, God FIRST removes our hostility toward him, then we hear the evidence in a new way and place our faith in Him

The Difference Between _____ and _____

There is a difference between what we call evidence and what we would consider to be PROOF:

Evidence

The facts we offer to support our claims of truth

Proof

What God does in the heart of the listener with the evidence we offer

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